

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES
NEWS RELEASE**



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director*



Contact:
Maria Wessel, Groundfish Management Biologist

Cordova Office
P.O. Box 669
Cordova, AK. 99574
Date Issued: 10/9/2012

Phone: (907) 424-3212
Fax: (907) 424-3235

**FISHERY ANNOUNCEMENT
PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND AREA
PARALLEL PACIFIC COD SEASON CLOSES TO POT GEAR
EMERGENCY ORDER # 2-GF-E-14-12**

The Prince William Sound (PWS) Area E parallel Pacific cod season will close to pot gear effective **12:00 noon October 12, 2012**. The parallel season closure coincides with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) closure of the Pacific cod pot sector "B" season in the federal Central Gulf of Alaska (CGOA) area. Fishermen are reminded that they must deliver their harvest within 24-hours of the closure.

The guideline harvest level (GHL) for the PWS state-waters season for Pacific cod was 1.45 million pounds and the season opened to pot gear on February 11, 2012, and closed to pot gear on March 26, 2012 when the 90% harvest cap was attained. The PWS state-waters season will remain closed to pot gear for the remainder of the calendar year.

Pacific cod may be retained up to a 20% bycatch allowance in other directed fisheries. This bycatch allowance is in addition to the bycatch allowance of 20% for other species specified in 5 AAC 28.070. However, the total round weight of Pacific cod retained as bycatch may not exceed 20% of the directed finfish species on board the vessel.

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